

SENATE BILL 1737

By Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49
and Title 68, Chapter 4, relative to body farms.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 4, is amended by adding
the following new section thereto:

68-4-114.

(a) For purposes of this section “body farm” means property where bodies are
kept in order that the human decomposition of the body can be examined.

(b) A body farm located in this state shall be:

(1) Owned and operated by a state-supported university, community
college, or a private college or university; and

(2) Operated solely for the purpose of medical, dental, surgical or
anatomical study and for the promotion of science alone.

(c) The University of Tennessee system and the Tennessee board of regents
shall develop policies establishing the best practices for operating a body farm in this
state. All policies issued pursuant to this subsection (c) shall be followed by a body farm
operated in this state.

(d) A body farm is not agriculture as that term is defined by § 1-3-105, and shall
only be operated on land that has been zoned for use as a body farm by the governing
body of the county or municipality where the land is located.

(e) A violation of this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, the public welfare requiring it.